REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE
FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION
on the work of its twenty-ninth session

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 16 (A/44/16)

UNITED NATIONS

best copy available

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION

on the work of its twenty-ninth session

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 16 (A/44/16)

UNITED NATIONS

New York, 1990

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

ISSN 0255–2213

READEX FICHE

[Original: English]

[7 February 1990]

CONTENTS

Chapter		Paragraphs	Page
I.	ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION	1 - 10	1
	A. Agenda	2 - 3	1
	B. Election of officers	4	1
	C. Attendance	5 - 8	2
	D. Documentation	9	3
	E. Adoption of the report of the Committee	10	3
II.	REVIEW OF THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL FUNCTIONING OF THE UNITED NATIONS	11 - 28	4
III.	PROGRAMME QUESTIONS	29 - 322	7
	A. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991	29 - 269	7
	Introduction and overview	29 - 46	7
	Conclusions and recommendations	47 - 69	9
	Section 1. Overall policy-making, direction and co-ordination	70 - 80	12
	Section 2A. Political and Security Council affairs; peace-keeping activities	81 - 91	14
	Section 2B. Disarmament affairs activities	92 - 100	15
	Section 2C. Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea	101 - 106	17
	Section 3. Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization	107 - 114	17
	Section 4. Policy-making organs (economic and social activities)	115 - 117	18
	Section 5A. Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation	118 - 124	19
	Section 5B. Regional Commissions New York Office	125 - 127	20

CONTENTS (continued)

Chapter		Paragraphs	Page
Section 6.	Department of International Economic and Social Affairs	128 - 139	20
Section 7.	Department of Technical Co-operation for Development	140 - 146	22
Section 8.	Activities on global social development issues	147 - 151	22
Section 9.	Transnational corporations	152 - 159	23
Section 10.	Economic Commission for Europe	160 - 163	24
Section 11.	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	164 - 168	25
Section 12.	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	169 - 176	26
Section 13.	Economic Commission for Africa	177 - 184	27
Section 14.	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	185 - 186	27
Section 15.	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	187 - 193	28
Section 16.	International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/GATT) .	194 - 196	28
Section 17.	Centre for Science and Technology for Development	197 - 202	29
Section 18.	United Nations Environment Programme	203 - 207	29
Section 19.	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	208 - 212	30
Section 20.	International drug control	213 - 217	31
Section 21.	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	218 - 219	32
Section 22.	Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator	220 - 225	32
Section 23.	Human rights	226 - 234	32
Section 24.	Regular programme of technical co-operation	235 - 237	34

CONTENTS (continued)

Chapter		Paragraphs	Page
	Section 25. International Court of Justice	238 - 240	34
	Section 26. Legal activities	241 - 249	34
	Section 27. Public information	250 - 269	35
B.	All aspects of priority-setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget	270 - 275	38
C.	Statements of programme budget implications	276 - 284	39
D.	Evaluation	285 - 320	40
	1. Implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its twenty-sixth session on the evaluation of the population programme	285 - 286	40
	2. In-depth evaluation of the programme on development issues and policies	287 - 297	40
	3. In-depth evaluation of the disarmament programme ..	298 - 307	43
	4. In-depth evaluation of the human rights programme .	308 - 314	44
	5. General conclusions and recommendations	315 - 320	45
E.	Mailing lists and registers maintained by the United Nations	321 - 322	45
IV.	CO-ORDINATION QUESTIONS	323 - 368	46
A.	Rationalization of co-ordination instruments	323 - 331	46
B.	Cross-organizational programme analyses	332 - 355	47
C.	Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and preparations for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	356 - 368	50
V.	REPORTS OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT	369 - 372	53
VI.	CONSIDERATION OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE	373 - 376	54

Annexes

I.	AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE	57
II.	LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE AT ITS TWENTY-NINTH SESSION	58

ABBREVIATIONS

ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
CPC	Committee for Programme and Co-ordination
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICSC	International Civil Service Commission
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INCB	International Narcotics Control Board
ITC	International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/GATT)
JIU	Joint Inspection Unit
MULPOC	Multinational Programming and Operational Centre
PADIS	Pan-African Documentation and Information System
UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRO	Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNFDAC	United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
WFC	World Food Council
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION*

1. The Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) held an organizational meeting (1st meeting) at United Nations Headquarters on 10 April 1989, and held its twenty-ninth session (2nd to 51st meetings) at United Nations Headquarters from 8 May to 5 June.

A. Agenda

2. The agenda for the twenty-ninth session, adopted by the Committee at its 1st meeting, is reproduced in annex I.

3. In adopting the agenda, the Committee, in accordance with the decision taken at its twenty-fourth session, 1/ decided to consider at its twenty-ninth session the following three reports of the Joint Inspection Unit: (a) review of the use of equipment provided to technical co-operation projects in developing countries (E/1989/7) and comments of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination thereon (E/1989/7/Add.1); (b) representation of organizations of the United Nations system at conferences and meetings, Part A: the United Nations (A/43/586) and the comments of the Secretary-General thereon (A/44/221), and Part B: the specialized agencies (A/44/135); and (c) evaluation of United Nations technical co-operation project evaluation systems, Parts I and II (E/1989/41 and Add.1).

B. Election of officers

4. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, the Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman: Mr. Tommo Monthe (Cameroon)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. Andrzej Abraszewski (Poland)
Mr. Yogesh Kumar Gupta (India)
Mr. Ado Vaher (Canada)

Rapporteur: Mrs. Norma Goicochea Estenoz (Cuba)

---

* The report was initially issued in mimeographed form under the symbol A/44/16.

C. Attendance

5. The following States members of the Committee were represented:

Austria
Bahamas
Bahrain
Bangladesh
Benin
Brazil
Burkina Faso
Cameroon
Canada
China
Colombia
Côte d'Ivoire
Cuba
France
Germany, Federal Republic of
India
Indonesia
Japan
Kenya
Mexico
Pakistan
Poland
Romania
Rwanda
Sweden
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Uganda
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Venezuela
Yugoslavia
Zambia

6. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers:

Algeria
Argentina
Australia
Belgium
Burundi
Chile
Costa Rica
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
Ethiopia
Finland
Ghana
Greece
Grenada
Guyana
Ireland
Italy
Jamaica
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Morocco
Netherlands
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Norway
Portugal
Somalia
Spain
Syrian Arab Republic
Thailand
Turkey
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
United Republic of Tanzania
Zaire
Zimbabwe

7. The following specialized agencies were represented:

International Labour Organisation
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
World Health Organization
World Bank
International Monetary Fund
International Fund for Agricultural Development
United Nations Industrial Development Organization

8. Also present at the session were the Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning, Budget and Finance, the Controller, and other senior officials of the United Nations Secretariat, including the Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs and his representatives, and representatives of the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Finance, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the World Food Council.

D. Documentation

9. For the list of documents before the Committee at its twenty-ninth session, see annex II below.

E. Adoption of the report of the Committee

10. At its 46th to 51st meetings, on 3 and 5 June 1989, the Committee adopted the draft report on its twenty-ninth session (E/AC.51/1989/L.3 and Add.1-32), as orally revised and amended during the discussion.

II. REVIEW OF THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL FUNCTIONING OF THE UNITED NATIONS

11. At its 14th, 15th and 16th meetings, on 16 and 17 May, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 (A/44/222 and Corr.1).

12. Many delegations noted that the report constituted an adequate basis for the debate of the Committee, but considered that it did not reflect in a global and integral way the process of implementation of the reforms. They expressed concern that the process of reform had taken place amidst a situation of financial crisis that still persisted, though admittedly some positive signs had been registered in recent periods. These delegations reiterated the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 42/211 of 21 December 1987 and 43/213 of 21 December 1988, which pointed to the need for overcoming the current financial crisis if the process of reform is to take place satisfactorily. Furthermore they noted that since the report did not cover the three-year period, it was necessary to provide updated information to the Fifth Committee at the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

Conclusions and recommendations

13. The Committee noted that the report was objective, factual and provided useful information on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213. In general, significant progress had been achieved owing to the joint efforts of Member States, the Secretary-General and the staff of the Organization. The Committee observed, however, that the various recommendations contained in the report of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, 2/ approved by the Assembly in resolution 41/213, had not been implemented in a balanced manner. While concrete progress had been achieved in the areas of political affairs and administration and management, results were uneven in the implementation of recommendations addressed to intergovernmental bodies and Member States, particularly in the economic and social sectors. Nevertheless, an evaluation of results in those sectors should take into account the complexity of problems that had to be addressed in the context of an ever-changing world situation.

14. The Committee noted that the report did not cover the entire three-year period required by the General Assembly and therefore could not be considered as a final report. The Committee also underlined the fact that the reform process was a continuing undertaking that needed to be carefully monitored.

15. The Committee generally agreed that the purpose of the reforms was to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the United Nations, and not merely to achieve savings or staff reductions. The Committee therefore encouraged the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts in that respect.

16. The importance of the question of co-ordination within the United Nations system was underlined by the Committee, which reiterated the need to strengthen the role of the Secretary-General in that respect, as well as the role of Member States through intergovernmental bodies.

17. The implementation of recommendation 15 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts should take into consideration an analysis of work-loads, the effect of post reductions on staff and the need to apply the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations with regard to highest levels of competence and equitable geographical distribution. The Committee reaffirmed that this recommendation should be implemented with flexibility to avoid negative impact on programmes, especially those mandated by deliberative bodies, while ensuring an equitable geographical distribution of staff, particularly at senior levels. The Committee decided to pursue its discussions on the effects of the implementation of recommendation 15 in the context of the review of the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

18. With respect to personnel questions, the Committee emphasized the need for greater transparency and coherence in personnel management, specifically in the United Nations Staff Rules and Regulations.

19. In the context of its review of action taken to implement recommendation 37 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts, the Committee stressed the need for the Secretary-General to reflect clearly in his reports decisions taken by Member States on the question of Palestine, particularly with respect to the structure of the Department of Public Information. The restructuring of that Department was being monitored carefully by Member States and should be implemented with flexibility and on the basis of mandates given by Member States. The Secretary-General should ensure, in particular, that United Nations information centres were given sufficient resources to enable them to function effectively.

20. The Committee believed that the secretariat services connected with peace-keeping operations should be given sufficient resources in order to enable them to fulfil their mandates.

21. With regard to conference services, the Committee emphasized the need to rationalize the work-load of staff within the Department of Conference Services, as well as the need to ensure that adequate services were provided for meetings and conferences. Further efforts should also be made to rationalize the calendar of conferences and meetings, in conformity with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 43/222 A of 21 December 1988. Furthermore, the Committee agreed that questions relating to the Committee on Conferences should continue to be examined.

22. In the economic and social sectors, the reform process needed to be pursued more vigorously. Measures to be proposed by the Secretary-General in that area should be reviewed by the Committee to examine their effect on programmes. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly, in considering the report requested in paragraph 2 of its resolution 43/174 of 9 December 1988, should keep in mind the mandates of the Committee in accordance with resolution 41/213. The Committee stressed the need to adhere closely to rules and regulations relevant to that sector when considering future reforms.

23. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the budgetary procedures adopted by the General Assembly were being gradually implemented. Those procedures should be monitored carefully and reviewed when necessary, taking into account experience acquired. Flexibility should be exercised with respect to the contingency fund, which was still in a developmental phase.

24. While noting that the financial situation had improved somewhat recently, the Committee noted that it had not been conducive to a co-ordinated implementation of reforms. The Committee stressed the importance for Member States to monitor closely the financial situation and to fulfil strictly their financial obligations under the Charter.

25. The Committee stressed that, in order to carry out successfully the process of reform and restructuring, it was essential that the present financial uncertainties be dispelled.

26. With respect to the implementation of recommendation 5 concerning the two construction projects approved by the General Assembly, the Committee noted the progress made in that respect and emphasized the need to adhere closely to the schedule outlined by the Secretary-General in his report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on the matter (A/C.5/43/16).

27. The Committee requested that the Secretariat provide the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session with up-to-date information on the implementation of resolution 41/213 so as to facilitate its consideration of the implementation process as an integrated whole.

28. Finally, the Committee recommended that the Secretary-General should submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session an update on the implementation of its resolution 41/213. The report of the Secretary-General should therefore contain an analytical and critical review of the process of reform, in the light of the objectives contained in resolution 41/213, and cover the three-year period, highlighting those issues which the Committee had noted in its discussions. The report should be structured along the following lines: (a) the first part should be an exhaustive presentation of recommendations fully implemented, partially implemented and not implemented, as well as those which, in the view of the Secretary-General, could not be implemented; (b) the second part of the report should provide explanations with regard to such implementation and an assessment of its impact on programmes, giving particular emphasis to those programmes which have been terminated or completed; and (c) the final part should provide a general critical assessment of the implementation of resolution 41/213 in the light of the objectives of that resolution, namely, the enhancement of the administrative and financial functioning of the Organization.

III. PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

A. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991

Introduction and overview

29. At its 15th meeting, on 16 May, the Committee heard the presentation of the introduction to and overview of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. The Committee discussed the introduction in several subsequent meetings.

30. The Committee agreed, in pursuance of established practice, to refer to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions all non-programmatic sections of the proposed programme budget.

Discussion

31. Several delegations expressed concern that the overall level of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 had exceeded the budget outline (see A/43/524) by some $1.3 million. Those delegations expressed the view that the outline should be perceived as a ceiling that should not have been surpassed.

32. Several delegations were of the view that the outline, as part of the new budget process, was still being developed, should be applied with flexibility and should not be regarded as a ceiling, since that might affect the Organization's ability to cope with its new tasks and mandates.

33. One delegation expressed concern at disparities in approach and presentation between the introduction to the proposed programme budget and the outline of the budget approved by the General Assembly at its forty-third session with respect to a basis for their formulation, adjustment for inflation and programmatic contents. The delegation also pointed out that, on a recosted basis at 1989 rates, there was an apparent excess of some $3 million of the level of resources in the proposed programme budget over that in the outline, and proposed that the Secretariat should provide Member States with a supplementary document that would facilitate the reconciling of the above-mentioned disparities by way of comparison between the budget outline and the proposed programme budget, taking into account relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 43/213 and those of Assembly resolution 43/214 of 21 December 1988, particularly paragraph 5 thereof.

34. Some delegations expressed the view that in order to safeguard the level of resources and programmatic contents in real terms, the level of resources proposed for the programme budget should be directly comparable with that approved in the budget outline. Some delegations expressed the view that, in proposing the amount of the budget, account should be taken of the need to provide sufficient financing for all programmes. Some delegations requested the Secretariat to indicate those additional programmatic legislative changes that it had anticipated in formulating the programme budget proposals subsequent to the budget outline, whose cut-off date for submission was prior to 15 August 1988.

35. Some delegations expressed disappointment that additional posts were not identified for abolition to offset the 50 posts that were not funded in the outline.

36. Some delegations, while noting that the in-depth review of the intergovernmental machinery and its functioning was still under way, emphasized the urgent need for the Secretariat to undertake an accurate assessment of the work-load of conference services, taking into account the latest and realistic forecast of meeting requirements in the forthcoming biennium.

37. Several delegations expressed concern that the target of a 25 per cent post reduction at the Under-Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General levels had not been reached. Some delegations were of the view that the Secretary-General had been entrusted with some flexibility in the implementation of the post cuts at the Under-Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General levels, and that a decision to abolish only 10 of such posts was within the scope of that flexibility.

38. Several delegations reiterated their view that, in making the 25 per cent post reduction at the Under-Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General levels, the principle of equitable geographical distribution should be maintained. Those delegations felt it was necessary to restore the post of Assistant Secretary-General of UNCTAD, to which they attached the greatest importance.

39. One delegation suggested the reduction of 14 Under-Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General posts and the creation of a reserve fund that would give flexibility to the Secretary-General to reinstate any such posts under certain conditions, while reporting the use of this fund to the General Assembly on an annual basis.

40. Several delegations noted that the budget methodology was quite complex and expressed the expectation that the calculation of growth, in particular, could be rendered more transparent. A number of delegations indicated that the calculation of growth could be simplified by measuring the changes in both recurrent and non-recurrent resources combined.

41. A number of delegations expressed concern about the presentation of extrabudgetary resources in the programme budget and the difficulty of relating the proposed use of such resources with the implementation of the mandated programme of the Organization.

42. Regarding the contingency fund, some delegations indicated that it should only be used for mandated outputs that had not been originally included in the regular budget.

43. Some delegations were of the view that the possibility of creating a fund for inflation and currency fluctuations, to be considered by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, was not a workable option and that the current system should be maintained.

44. Some delegations expressed disappointment that the Secretariat had not taken the initiative to direct greater resources to emerging problems, for example, the growing involvement of the United Nations in peace-making, peace-keeping, disarmament, the protection and promotion of human rights, the fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking, environmental protection and the advancement of women. Some delegations expressed concern that most of the substantive sectors dealing with those problems underwent far greater decreases in staffing and in share in financial resources than the common support sections, such as the Departments of Administration and Management and of Conference Services, where a

greater rationalization could be achieved drawing upon the newly introduced integrated management information system. The view was expressed that resources from the regular budget should have been allocated for the preparation of the proposed United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

45. Several delegations were of the view that the programme budget should pay similar attention to other important problems affecting many countries, such as the debt, development of the developing countries' energy resources, trade, the reverse transfer of technology and problems relating to food and agriculture.

46. Some delegations expressed concern over the possible negative programmatic impact of post reductions in small offices of the Secretariat.

Conclusions and recommendations

1. General consideration

47. The Committee recalled that the new budgetary process established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 aims, inter alia, at the following: (a) a more intense participation of Member States in the preparation of the programme budget; (b) the search for the widest possible agreement on the programme budget; and (c) an increase in the efficiency in management of the Organization. Those objectives should be actively pursued.

48. In order to improve the consultation procedure, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly should request those intergovernmental bodies that consider the work programmes of organizations of the United Nations system to hold their meetings in accordance with a calendar which enables the Secretary-General to take into account their recommendations in the preparations of the proposed programme budget.

49. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General to identify in future proposed programme budgets the changes in programmatic content in order to facilitate consideration of the budget. The Committee took note of the assurances given by the Secretariat with regard to the oral presentation of those changes when the various sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 were to be considered during the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

2. Documentation

50. The Committee expressed its concern regarding the late submission or unavailability of certain sections of the proposed programme budget, as well as regarding inaccuracies in several sections of the proposed programme budget. In that connection, the Committee recommended that the Secretary-General should reflect in the legislative references for appropriate subprogrammes all corresponding references to the revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989, as modified and approved by the Committee and the General Assembly. The Committee also strongly recommended that the Secretariat should keep in mind this recommendation during the preparation of future programme budgets, medium-term plans and revisions to the medium-term plan.

51. The Committee recognized, however, the difficulties encountered by the Secretariat in the preparation of this proposed programme budget and acknowledged the efforts made in that regard.

52. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should consider the possibility of adjusting the calendar of meetings so that the session of the Committee would start later in May.

3. Overall resource requirements

53. The Committee noted that the total amount of resources requested by the Secretary-General was above the preliminary estimate adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 43/214.

54. In that regard, the Committee stressed the necessity for the Secretary-General to adhere to the provisions of that resolution.

55. The Committee also recognized the need for flexibility, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 41/213, 42/211 and 43/214, taking into account the following factors:

(a) The complexity and evolving nature of many of the issues embodied in the programme budget;

(b) The unresolved methodological issues related to the budgetary process, particularly with regard to the treatment of extrabudgetary resources;

(c) The fact that the Committee was not yet in a position to determine the programmatic meaning of the above-mentioned discrepancy between the outline and the proposed programme budget;

(d) The fact that the new budget process was still in a developmental period, as recognized by the Assembly in its resolution 43/214.

56. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that its final decision on the question of the total estimated requirements should be taken in the light of the above observations and in the light of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

4. Growth and implementation of programmes

57. The Committee took note of the negative rate of growth of 0.4 per cent given in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

58. The Committee stressed the relative magnitude of that rate of growth, given the methodology used and given the lack of clarity concerning the relationship between such growth and the programmatic content of the budget.

59. The Committee recommended that the relevant methodology should be refined and that the Secretary-General should provide in the future a more thorough analysis of the relationship between the rate of growth in the programme budget and its impact upon the activities of the Organization, in order to reach a clearer understanding

of the relationship between that rate and the programmatic content of the programme budget.

60. The Committee noted in many sections of the proposed programme budget the trend towards an increase in administrative costs and in the costs associated with the use of experts and consultants, travel, external printing and equipment. The Committee recommended that efforts should be continued with a view to reducing all such costs for the benefit of programmes. The Committee further recommended that the attention of the Advisory Committee should be drawn to that matter.

61. The Committee took note of the statements made by the Secretary-General in the introduction to the proposed programme budget that the outputs mandated by the competent intergovernmental bodies would be fully implemented and stressed the necessity of avoiding negative effects of the proposed rate of real growth on the implementation of programmes.

62. The Committee noted that the presentation of programmes and the identification of outputs and priorities in the different sections of the proposed programme budget were of uneven quality, and it recommended that the Secretary-General should continue his effort in that respect, particularly regarding the clarity and coherence of the presentation of the mandated activities and of the relationship with the proposed resources. The Committee further recommended that the Secretary-General should submit to the General Assembly, in the context of consideration of the proposed programme budget, proposals for priorities in the light of the discussions of the Committee at its twenty-ninth session and of the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session in 1989.

5. Implementation in the programme budget of the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/213

63. The Committee noted the efforts of the Secretary-General to fulfil the objectives given by the General Assembly despite the difficulties experienced by the Organization during the past few years.

64. The Committee noted that the proposed programme budget included a reduction of 1,368 regular budget-funded posts, or 11.97 per cent of the total.

65. The Committee noted further that the Secretary-General had not been in a position to implement fully the provisions of paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 43/213; the Committee underlined the necessity of pursuing that implementation and recommended to the Assembly that its decision on that matter should be made in the light of the above observations and of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, in the framework of the overall objectives as set forth in Assembly resolution 41/213.

66. Regarding overall post reduction, the Committee reaffirmed the need for flexibility in order to avoid a negative impact on programmes, in particular with respect to the small units of the Secretariat, as referred to in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 43/213, and to the regional commissions. The Committee also reaffirmed the need to secure the highest standard of efficiency, competence and integrity of staff with due regard to equitable geographical distribution of posts in the Secretariat and in order to take into account the complexities and

constraints attached to the implementation of recommendation 15 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts on the reduction of personnel.

67. Regarding high-level posts in the Secretariat, the Committee, noting the proposals of the Secretary-General, recommended that the General Assembly should keep the question under review, and it requested the Secretary-General to continue the implementation of the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 41/213, with flexibility, taking into account the views expressed by Member States and with regular reporting to the Assembly.

6. Methodology

68. The Committee took note of the methodology used by the Secretary-General for the preparation of the programme budget and recognized that the methodology was complex and presented a number of difficulties, including those in relation to the preparation of the outline.

69. The Committee recommended that the Secretary-General should continue to refine the methodology, notably with regard to the treatment of the different factors affecting the rate of growth, the treatment of non-recurrent expenditures, and the presentation of estimates and of allocations of extrabudgetary resources, including their rate of growth, and of the gross expenditure of the Organization, in order to provide a clearer understanding of the relationship between different sources of funding of the Organization and its programmatic activities.

Section 1. Overall policy-making, direction and co-ordination

Subsection A. Policy-making organs

70. At its 21st and 22nd meetings, on 19 and 22 May, the Committee considered section 1, subsection A, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

71. A number of delegations queried the provision under section 1 for travel to sessions of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination by representatives of the regional commissions. In their view, such a provision should be included rather under the sections of the proposed programme budget dealing with the regional commissions.

72. A query was made regarding the continuation of the practice of payment by the Organization of travel expenses and subsistence allowances of the members of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination as a special exception to the basic principles set forth in General Assembly resolution 1798 (XVII). It was felt that this matter should be reviewed by the Assembly at its forty-fourth session. It was also said that the practice of payment by the Organization of travel expenses and subsistence allowances of the members of CPC, as a special exception to the basic principles, had greatly facilitated the effective participation of delegations, especially those from developing countries, and had thus enhanced the functioning of the Committee, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/213.

Reservation

73. One delegation expressed its objection to the activities of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. The delegation believed that the activities of the Committee were biased and did not contribute to a peaceful solution to the Middle East conflict.

Conclusions and recommendations

74. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 1, subsection A, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Subsection B. Executive direction and management

75. At its 34th and 35th meetings, on 30 May, the Committee considered section 1, subsection B, of the proposed budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

76. A number of delegations expressed concern at the modest level of resources proposed for the Division for Palestinian Rights in view of the high priority of this issue. In response, it was pointed out that activities relating to the question of Palestine were carried out under several other sections of the proposed programme budget and appropriate provisions were included in those sections.

77. Some delegations expressed their concern that the programme budget proposal for 1990-1991 did not contain provisions for the work of the Co-ordinator for United Nations Humanitarian and Economic Assistance Programmes relating to Afghanistan, and took note of the statement of the representative of the Secretariat that, if necessary, a request could be submitted at a later stage. In that regard, Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/52 of 26 July 1988, was recalled.

78. Another delegation said that the modalities for financing the work of the Co-ordinator for United Nations Humanitarian and Economic Assistance Programmes relating to Afghanistan had been adequately dealt with in Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/52.

Reservation

79. One delegation expressed its objection to the activities of the Division for Palestinian Rights. The delegation believed that the Division's activities were biased and did not contribute to a peaceful solution to the Middle East conflict.

Conclusions and recommendations

80. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should take note of the programme narrative of section 1, subsection B, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and that it should request the Secretariat to reflect in

the legislative references for the subprogrammes in paragraph 1.139 appropriate references to the revisions to the medium-term plan 3/ approved by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Committee. 4/ This would involve adding the following text to section (b) of the two subprogrammes in paragraph 1.139: "as modified by A/43/16 (part one), para. 112 (n)".

Section 2A. Political and Security Council affairs; peace-keeping activities

Subsection A. Policy-making organs

Subsection B. Department of Political and Security Council Affairs

81. At its 22nd and 23rd meetings, on 22 May, the Committee considered section 2A, subsections A and B, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

82. A number of delegations expressed concern that activities of the Department under subprogramme 2 (Service for political and security affairs), relating to political analysis, appeared to duplicate work carried out by the Office for Research and the Collection of Information under section 1 of the proposed programme budget. Others did not share the view and stressed that those activities fell squarely within the competence of the Department.

83. Some delegations questioned the legislative basis for a number of activities under subprogramme 3 (Peaceful uses of outer space), in particular output (i) under programme element 3.5 (Space information services) relating to the provision of remote-sensing satellite data to Member States. Other delegations felt that it was properly mandated.

Conclusions and recommendations

84. The Committee recalled General Assembly resolution 41/213 and emphasized the importance of close adherence to its provisions. The Committee requested that corresponding references to the modifications to the revisions to the medium-term plan, 3/ as recommended by the Committee 4/ and approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 43/219 of 21 December 1988, be reflected in the legislative references for the appropriate sub-programmes of the section. The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 2A, subsections A and B, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Subsection C. Special missions

85. At its 42nd meeting, on 2 June, the Committee considered section 2A, subsection C, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

86. One delegation, emphasizing the importance of peace-keeping activities, expressed the view that the post of Chief of Mission of the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) should not be downgraded from Assistant Secretary-General to the D-2 level. Another delegation expressed the view that such reclassification was done by the Secretary-General, taking into account his overall responsibilities under General Assembly resolution 41/213 and the work of the Chief of Mission of UNMOGIP, and thus the reclassification should be respected.

Conclusions and recommendations

87. The Committee emphasized the importance of peace-keeping operations in general. It took note of the views expressed by two delegations in regard to UNMOGIP.

88. The Committee took note of the programme narrative of section 2A, subsection C, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and recommended that the General Assembly should approve it.

Subsection D. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

89. At its 42nd meeting, on 2 June, the Committee considered section 2A, subsection D, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

90. One delegation expressed the view that the activities covered in section 2A, subsection D, were of the highest priority and that that should have been specifically mentioned.

Conclusions and recommendations

91. The Committee took note of the programme narrative of section 2A, subsection D, of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and recommended that the General Assembly should approve it.

Section 2B. Disarmament affairs activities

92. At its 23rd meeting, on 22 May, the Committee considered section 2B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

93. Some delegations expressed concern that the Department for Disarmament Affairs, a small office, might be affected adversely by the post-reduction exercise, and they expressed the hope that the implementation by that Department of its mandated activities, to which the General Assembly accorded high priority, would not be hindered.

94. One delegation requested assurance that activities carried out by the Department for Disarmament Affairs in the area of information would not overlap with those carried out by the Department of Public Information.

95. Some delegations requested the Secretariat to provide more detailed information on the application of recommendation 20 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts 2/ with regard to the Department for Disarmament Affairs.

96. One delegation questioned the relationship between the subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) and the absence of a programme related to that subvention in the approved activities in the medium-term plan. The reply was given that the principle of a subvention was inscribed in the statute of UNIDIR, which was approved by the General Assembly.

Conclusions and recommendations

97. The Committee took note of the non-recurrent activities as contained in section 2B, as well as of the effects on the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213.

98. The Committee recalled the recommendations made at its twenty-eighth session 5/ with regard to the application of recommendation 15 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to smaller offices of the Secretariat, and it requested that the Secretary-General, when implementing the budget of the Department, display flexibility in order to avoid negative and adverse effects on the programmes on disarmament to which the General Assembly attached high priority. The Committee stressed that, in order to reflect that priority, every effort should be made to enhance and strengthen the effectiveness of the Department in accordance with the tasks entrusted to it. At the same time, the Committee requested that special emphasis be given to subprogrammes 1 (Deliberation and negotiation) and 4 (The United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme) under subsection B (Department for Disarmament Affairs).

99. Lastly, the Committee took note of the information activities outlined in section 2B and recommended that the Secretary-General should strengthen and enhance the existing co-ordination in that field, especially with respect to the division of work between the Department of Public Information and the Department for Disarmament Affairs, in order to avoid duplication regarding all information activities contained in subprogrammes 2 (Information on disarmament) and 5 (World Disarmament Campaign) under subsection B.

100. The Committee took note of the programme narrative of section 2B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and recommended that the General Assembly should approve it.

Section 2C. Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

101. At its 24th meeting, on 23 May, the Committee considered section 2C of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

102. Some delegations indicated that they had difficulties with the proposed conversion of 17 temporary posts to established posts (see A/44/6 (sect. 2C), para. 2C.12), while one delegation indicated that it was in favour of that conversion.

Reservation

103. One delegation expressed reservations on the inclusion of subprogramme 4 (Servicing of the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea) and its financing under the regular budget.

Conclusions and recommendations

104. The Committee noted the impact on section 2C of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213, in particular of recommendations 14 and 15 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts 2/ on the reorganization of the Secretariat and on post reduction, respectively. The Committee also took note of the designation of priorities in that section.

105. The Committee recommended that the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions should study further the question of the conversion of posts.

106. The Committee took note of the programme narrative of section 2C of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and recommended its approval by the General Assembly.

Section 3. Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization

107. At its 35th meeting, on 30 May, the Committee considered section 3 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

108. Several delegations stressed the importance of the activities in the areas of apartheid and self-determination of the Palestinian people and expressed their concern that the level of resources allocated was insufficient.

109. Some delegations indicated that exempting the activities programmed under section 3 from priority designation at the programme-element level should in no way be interpreted as downgrading their overall importance.

110. Some delegations expressed the view that the programmatic implications of the reorganization of the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Trusteeship and Decolonization and the Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia, in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213, should have been spelled out more clearly.

111. Some delegations proposed that the word "decolonization", as referred to in this section, be replaced by "self-determination". Other delegations indicated that the word "decolonization" should be retained throughout the section, as adopted in the medium-term plan.

112. Some delegations requested the Secretary-General to take due account of activities in the areas of decolonization, self-determination of people, apartheid, the question of Palestine and regional co-operation, and to ensure their full implementation.

Conclusions and recommendations

113. The Committee took note of the fact that no priority designation had been made at the programme-element level within section 3 as opposed to other sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, and requested the Secretary-General to make proposals on priorities in that section and to submit them to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session.

114. The Committee requested the Secretary-General:

(a) To improve in future programme budgets the programmatic presentation under this section through a better definition of outputs and a clearer reflection of the impact of the implementation of Assembly resolution 41/213;

(b) To keep under review ongoing developments affecting the programmes in section 3 of the programme budget.

Section 4. Policy-making organs (economic and social activities)

115. At its 22nd meeting, on 22 May, the Committee considered section 4 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

116. A number of delegations expressed the view that the section was lacking in programmatic content. The representative of the Secretariat explained that consideration would be given to the abolition of section 4 in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 and to the redeployment of resources among the relevant sections concerned.

Conclusions and recommendations

117. The Committee recommended that the programmatic content of section 4 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 should be improved and that the use of consultants and travel should be stringently managed, in line with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/213, and should be harmonized with other sections of the programme budget.

Section 5A. Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation

118. At its 39th meeting, on 1 June, the Committee considered section 5A of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

119. Questions were raised and clarifications were sought regarding the format of the presentation of the budget and the role of the Office in connection with the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 (General Assembly resolution S-13/2 of 1 June 1986, annex).

Conclusions and recommendations

120. The Committee took note of the important tasks assigned to the Director-General, as indicated in paragraph 5A.5 of the section, many of which deserved greater attention, namely, monitoring the evolution of the international economic situation, the preparations for the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade, provision of assistance to Member States in international negotiations, support for the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries and for the Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development and operational activities.

121. The Committee stressed the need to provide the Office with the appropriate means in order for it to carry its tasks in the most effective manner.

122. The Committee recalled the recommendations made at its twenty-fifth session 6/ and at its twenty-seventh session 7/ on the need for improvement in the format of the presentation for section 5A of the proposed programme budget.

123. The Committee noted the assurances given by the Secretariat regarding the improved co-ordination of efforts and the improved follow-up to the implementation of the Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development.

124. The Committee took note of the programme narrative of section 5A of the proposed programme for the biennium 1990-1991 and recommended its approval by the General Assembly.

Section 5B. Regional Commissions New York Office

125. At its 37th meeting, on 31 May, the Committee considered section 5B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

126. Several delegations questioned the presentation of section 5B as a separate section and felt that, given its size, it should be possible to incorporate that section within another section of the programme budget.

Conclusions and recommendations

127. The Committee took note of section 5B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and recommended that, in the future, the Secretary-General should consider its placement in another section.

Section 6. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

128. At its 24th to 27th meetings, on 23, 24 and 25 May, the Committee considered section 6 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

129. Delegations stressed the importance of the programmes carried out by the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs. Some other delegations also expressed their opinion on the necessity to maintain the integrated approach of the Department.

130. Some delegations questioned the concept of "sustainable development" under paragraph 6.6 and proposed the deletion of the word "sustainable", taking into account that this concept was not included in the World Population Plan of Action 8/ nor in the documents resulting from the conferences held in Bucharest and Mexico City, which are the legislative mandates for that subprogramme. Those delegations pointed to the need to allocate greater priority to subprogramme 4 (Population and development) of programme 3 (Analysis of the world population). The Committee requested that the Secretariat change the wording of paragraph 6.42 in accordance with the relevant mandates.

131. Several delegations pointed out the decrease in resource requirements for the Department as a whole and particularly for subprogramme 1 (Development perspectives) of programme 1 (Global development issues and policies), and subprogrammes 1 (World demographic analysis) and 7 (Dissemination of population information) of programme 3 (Analysis of the world population).

132. Several delegations raised questions regarding the criteria for the distribution of extrabudgetary resources among the programmes of activity. A number of delegations expected the Department to keep strictly to its mandated activities.

133. Some delegations expressed the view that the activities of the Department unnecessarily duplicated the programmatic descriptions of activities represented in other budget fascicles, such as UNCTAD, UNEP and the Office of the Director-General. Some others believed that the Department was to give an integrated view of the economic and social sectors, as well as to complement and analyse programmes from different economic and social perspectives. Some delegations emphasized that, in view of the close linkage between economic and social issues, the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs should continue to discharge its existing functions, and that the seven posts mentioned in paragraph 6.24 should not be transferred to the Vienna Office. Other delegations stated that the proposed transfer was the consequence of the separation of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs from the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and in line with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 42/125 of 7 December 1987. As a consequence, the Committee was not in a position to make a recommendation on the proposed transfer of posts from section 6 to section 8.

134. Some delegations expressed concern about the information given by the Secretariat regarding the negative impact that the lack of resources was already having on the programmes and activities of the Department. They also stressed the need to avoid further negative impact as a consequence of deployment of posts to other bodies of the United Nations.

Conclusions and recommendations

135. The Committee stressed the importance of the activities of the Department and took note of the proposed real rate of growth. The Committee, noting the costs relating to administrative and support programmes in comparison to those relating to substantive programmes, recommended that resources should be more oriented to substantive activities, particularly to activities of highest priority. The Committee noted the allocation of regular budget and extrabudgetary resources between programmes and subprogrammes and stressed the need to be provided with more information in the future on the criteria used for the distribution of such resources.

136. The Committee expressed its opinion that, in implementing recommendation 15 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts, 2/ it was necessary to avoid negative impacts on the programme.

137. The Committee requested that the corresponding references to the modifications to the revisions to the medium-term plan, 3/ as proposed by the Committee 4/ and approved by the General Assembly, be reflected in the legislative references for subprogrammes 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 of programme 1 (Global development issues and policies).

138. The Committee also requested the addition of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/75 to the legislative reference for subprogramme 6 of programme 1.

139. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 6 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 7. Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

140. At its 35th and 36th meetings, on 30 and 31 May, the Committee considered section 7 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

141. Some delegations expressed reservations at the fact that a part of the activities of the Department that pertained to operational activities was funded by resources from the regular budget. They asked for a better distinction between administration activities and projects.

142. Some other delegations were of the view that some operational activities had to be funded by the regular budget, while they recognized that a distinction had to be made between administrative expenditures and projects.

Conclusions and recommendations

143. The Committee stressed that the programmes in section 7 represented an important contribution to technical co-operation for development activities carried out by the United Nations.

144. The Committee recommended that, in future, section 7 should be presented with improved formulation and greater clarity.

145. The Committee noted the impact of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213, in particular of recommendation 15 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts 2/ concerning post reduction, on this section, and stressed the importance of avoiding negative effects of post reductions on the delivery of programmes.

146. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 7 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 8. Activities on global social development issues

147. At its 28th meeting, on 26 May, the Committee considered section 8 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. In his introductory statement, the representative of the Programme Planning and Budget Division informed the Committee that several priority designations had been inadvertently omitted from the fascicle. He pointed out that programme elements 5.1 (Policy analysis of priority themes for the Commission on the Status of Women in terms of the objective of peace) and 7.1 (Monitoring, evaluation and co-ordination of the implementation of the Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging) should be designated as highest priority and 7.2 (Promotion and exchange of information on aging) and 11.3 (Juvenile justice) as lowest priority. He also pointed out that consideration of section 8 was related to that of section 6 (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs), from which the transfer of seven posts was proposed (see para. 133 above).

Discussion

148. Several delegations found the programme narratives of the activities carried out by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs at the United Nations Office at Vienna to be clear and informative, while others felt that their description could be improved. Some delegations underlined the importance of the Centre and its programmes. Some delegations also expressed the need to reinforce the Centre, in particular the Crime Branch. Several delegations expressed concern over the reduction of staff and its negative impact on the Centre's programmes. Others proposed that the preparations and holding of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders be included in the introduction, specifically paragraph 8.5. One delegation referred to the report to be submitted in 1990 to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on the implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners under programme element 11.1 (Treatment of offenders), and stressed that the report should also be translated and circulated in 1990. Some delegations pointed to the decrease in resource requirements for several subprogrammes in comparison to the biennium 1988-1989 and expressed concern at the overall decrease in posts, as well as the negative effect any decrease in resources might have on programmes. In addition, a number of delegations questioned the proposed increases in requirements for consultants, ad hoc expert groups and travel, including the travel increases for the Chairman of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

149. Some delegations expressed concern as to whether the number and grades of posts redeployed to meet the transfer of responsibilities (see para. 8.6) would be sufficient to carry out the expanded scope of the Report on the World Social Situation, as decided by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1989/72 of 24 May 1989. As indicated in paragraph 133 above, the Committee did not reach a conclusion on the proposed transfer of posts from section 6 to section 8.

Conclusions and recommendations

150. The Committee took note of the programme narrative of section 8 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and the corrections made and recommended its approval by the General Assembly. The Committee recommended that further efforts should be made to avoid negative effects of staff reduction on programme delivery in this section and on equitable geographical distribution of posts and further recommended that prolonged vacancies should be avoided. The Committee also recommended that efforts should be made for appropriate distribution of resources between subprogrammes.

151. The Committee reiterated the recommendation made at its twenty-eighth session. 9/

Section 9. Transnational corporations

152. At its 34th meeting, on 30 May, the Committee considered section 9 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

153. The Committee felt that as a whole, the activities set forth contained in section 9 were presented in a clear and consistent manner. Questions were raised regarding the assignment of lowest priority to programme elements 3.4 (Support to institutions and organizations in training activities concerning transnational corporations and study tours) and 3.10 (Advisory, information and training services for the ECLAC region on matters relating to transnational corporations).

Conclusions and recommendations

154. The Committee noted that section 9 included important activities that were, as a whole, well formulated in the programme narrative, and requested the continuation of this improvement in output identification.

155. The Committee requested that the Secretary-General continue his efforts to minimize the administrative costs of implementing the programme on transnational corporations.

156. While noting the slight positive growth in resources, the Committee requested that the Secretary-General ensure the availability of adequate funding for implementation of the activities under section 9.

157. The Committee recommended that subprogrammes 3.2 (Advisory projects related to specific arrangements with transnational corporations), 3.3 (Training workshops) and 3.4 (Support to institutions and organizations in training activities concerning transnational corporations and study tours) should be given higher priority.

158. The Committee stressed that the Centre on Transnational Corporations should continue its efforts to broaden the geographical distribution of its consultants.

159. Taking into account the above, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 9 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 10. Economic Commission for Europe

160. At its 38th meeting, on 1 June, the Committee considered section 10 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. In his introductory statement, the representative of the Programme Planning and Budget Division informed the Committee that two priority designations had been inadvertently omitted from the section. He pointed out that, under programme 8 (Science and technology in Europe), programme element 1.1 (Medium- and long-term perspectives in science and technology) should be designated as highest priority and programme element 4.1 (Selected issues in licensing) as lowest priority.

Discussion

161. Several delegations expressed support for the work of the Commission. One delegation questioned the designation of priorities and the resources required for staff from one biennium to the other. Other delegations requested information on the proposals for travel costs.

Conclusions and recommendations

162. The Committee noted that the information on conference-servicing and administrative costs would be provided to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session at the time of its review of the proposed programme budget and that delegations had expressed certain reservations about the proposed allocation of resources among programmes in the section. The Committee recommended strengthening the consultation procedure within the framework of the Regulations and Rules in force.

163. The Committee took note of the programme narrative of section 10 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and recommended its approval by the General Assembly.

Section 11. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

164. At its 38th meeting, on 1 June, the Committee considered section 11 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

165. Questions were raised about the designation of programme elements with high and low priorities and a number of suggestions were made for the redesignation of priorities.

Conclusions and recommendations

166. The Committee recommended that the co-ordination of activities between the Commission and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in respect of the food and agriculture programme should be enhanced to avoid the duplication and overlapping of activities.

167. The Committee requested that the Secretary-General undertake efforts to ensure sound and stable financing of the programme of work of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology.

168. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 11 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 12. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

169. At its 39th meeting, on 1 June, the Committee considered section 12 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

170. The Committee took note of the comments of the representative of the Commission to the effect that attempts were being made to ensure that the presentation of the next medium-term plan would be improved to reflect, in a more transparent manner, the activities carried out in the Caribbean.

Conclusions and recommendations

171. The Committee noted the importance of the programmes in section 12. The Committee also noted the reduced resources for the section and emphasized the need to avoid any negative impact on programme activities.

172. The Committee recommended that the presentation of the section should be improved in future.

173. The Committee noted the assurances of the Secretariat with regard to the presentation of activities and the reflection of mandates in the forthcoming medium-term plan.

174. The Committee recommended that the next medium-term plan in respect of ECLAC be improved to reflect in a more transparent manner the activities carried out in the Caribbean.

175. The Committee recommended that high priority be given to the following:

(a) Programme 2, programme element 5.2;

(b) Programme 4, programme element 3.1;

(c) Programme 5, programme element 1.1;

(d) Programme 6, programme element 1.2;

(e) Programme 6, programme element 3.1;

(f) Programme 7, programme element 3.1;

(g) Programme 9, programme element 1.4.

176. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 12 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 13. Economic Commission for Africa

177. At its 39th meeting, on 1 June, the Committee considered section 13 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

178. Many delegations expressed concern over the low level of resources provided to ECA for the biennium 1990-1991 and over the continuing high vacancy rate in the Commission. Some expressed the view that a reduction in the high vacancy rate would compensate for the lack of resources. Questions were raised regarding the determination of priorities and the distribution of extrabudgetary resources among programmes. Delegations stressed the importance of the Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS), as well as that of Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs), and called for their strengthening. A number of others believed that such a decision should await the outcome of the ongoing review.

Conclusions and recommendations

179. The Committee took note of the improved presentation of section 13 and stressed the importance of the Commission's programmes for African development.

180. The Committee emphasized the need to place greater emphasis on a number of programmes, namely, food and agriculture, development issues and policies, environment, industrial development, population, social development and humanitarian affairs, and transport, communications and tourism in Africa.

181. The Committee stressed the need for the Secretary-General to provide ECA with sufficient resources commensurate with the priority assigned by the General Assembly to the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development.

182. The Committee took note of the Secretariat's efforts to maintain the support posts for PADIS and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP).

183. The Committee recommended that the Secretary-General should continue his efforts to eliminate the high vacancy rate, which caused a negative impact on the programmes of the Commission.

184. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 13 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 14. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

185. At its 40th meeting, on 1 June, the Committee considered section 14 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Conclusions and recommendations

186. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 14 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 15. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

187. At its 37th meeting, on 31 May, the Committee considered section 15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

188. Several delegations expressed their concern at the reduction of the post of Assistant Secretary-General and stressed the necessity for filling that post. Several others preferred to let the Secretary-General make his decision in accordance with his plan for restructuring the Secretariat.

Reservation

189. One delegation expressed its reservation concerning the activities of the Special Economic Unit on Palestine.

Conclusions and recommendations

190. The Committee recommended the continuation of efforts under way to enhance the coherence of activities, which should be implemented in the framework of the established mandates and should be mutually complementary with other sections of the programme budget.

191. The Committee noted the considerable increase in programme activities and emphasized that continued efforts should be made to attract additional resources in order to meet the responsibility of this heavy work-load.

192. The Committee stressed the importance of avoiding negative impacts on the programmes in implementing recommendation 15 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts 2/ and General Assembly resolution 41/213.

193. Taking into account the revisions proposed with respect to executive direction and management and programmes of activity (see E/AC.51/1989/CRP.2), the Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 as revised.

Section 16. International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/GATT)

194. At its 34th meeting, on 30 May, the Committee considered section 16 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Conclusions and recommendations

195. The Committee recommended merging subprogramme 1 (Institutional infrastructure for trade promotion at the national level) and subprogramme 8 (Technical co-operation with national chambers of commerce). The Committee also recommended that the scope of subprogramme 4 (Commodity promotion) should be extended to include all activities concerning the trade of raw materials.

196. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 16 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 17. Centre for Science and Technology for Development

197. At its 25th meeting, on 23 May, the Committee considered section 17 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

198. Several delegations expressed concern at the post reductions in section 17. Questions were raised as to the means whereby the Centre selected the countries to which assistance was to be given. One delegation noted that programme element 1.1 (Endogenous capacity-building, including innovation and blending of technologies in the productive sector), whose funding depended on extrabudgetary resources, was designated as high priority. Another delegation noted that those outputs which consisted essentially of advisory services were difficult to express in programmatic terms.

Conclusions and recommendations

199. The Committee recommended that further efforts should be made to avoid negative effects of staff reduction on programme delivery and on equitable geographical distribution of posts. The Committee also stressed that the proposed programme should benefit the largest number of countries.

200. The Committee underlined the need for an effort to better identify outputs and programme narratives, while recognizing that the activities proposed in this section were, by their nature, difficult to programme.

201. The Committee requested that the revisions to the medium-term plan, 3/ as modified by the Committee 4/ and approved by the General Assembly, be reflected in the legislative references of the subprogrammes.

202. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 17 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 18. United Nations Environment Programme

203. At its 24th and 25th meetings, on 23 May, the Committee considered section 18 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

204. Several delegations thought that provision should have been made for the proposed United Nations conference on environment and development. The representative of the Secretary-General explained that, as requested by the General

Assembly in its resolution 43/196 of 20 December 1988, a report on the modalities for the preparation and convening of the conference would be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, and would be made available to the Governing Council of UNEP.

205. One delegation considered it appropriate that the bulk of the resources in section 18 should be extrabudgetary. Others voiced concern at what was perceived to be a reduction in resources under subprogramme 4 (Environment and development), which one delegation thought should be accorded high priority. Several delegations expressed the view that new mandates on environment should be discussed by the General Assembly.

Conclusions and recommendations

206. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly, while considering section 18, should take into account appropriate mandates adopted by the Governing Council of UNEP at its fifteenth session.

207. The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 18 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 19. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

208. At its 24th and 25th meetings, on 23 May, the Committee considered section 19 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

209. Several delegations referred to the proposed transfer to section 19 of resources for conference servicing and the opinion was expressed that the transfer should not take place until there was a permanent conference facility at Nairobi. One delegation felt that these resources, as with conference services under section 18 (UNEP), should remain in section 29 (Conference and library services). One delegation thought that all conference-servicing requirements should be in section 29. Another believed that there should be transparency in conference-servicing costs at different centres. Concern was expressed with the level of post reductions and the reliance on extrabudgetary resources. Several delegations expressed support for the activities concerning the living conditions of the Palestinian people.

Reservation

210. One delegation expressed reservations about the inclusion of activities concerning the living conditions of the Palestinian people in this budget section.

Conclusions and recommendations

211. The Committee requested that the revisions to the medium-term plan, 3/ as approved by the General Assembly, be reflected in the legislative references of subprogrammes.

212. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 19 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 20. International drug control

213. At its 33rd meeting, on 27 May, the Committee considered section 20 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

214. Several delegations stressed the importance of the role of the United Nations in the field of international drug control. Others pointed to the need to ensure that the work of the three units dealing with drug control activities was properly co-ordinated. A number of delegations noted that, in respect of the Division for Narcotic Drugs, the intention to place special emphasis on demand reduction was, at the same time, accompanied by a reduction in the percentage of resources envisaged for subprogramme 3 (Supply and demand reduction).

215. Some delegations expressed concern about the fact that the Drug Control Unit had experienced the greatest percentage reduction in posts and about the potential negative impact on the activities of the Unit. They also expressed the view that the new posts proposed for priority activities, such as narcotics control, should have been included in the permanent, regular budget staffing table.

216. Some delegations stressed the fact that supply and demand had the same importance and had to be treated equally; other delegations considered that, in order to achieve that balance, the programmes related to demand should be strengthened.

Conclusions and recommendations

217. The Committee underlined the importance of international co-operation in carrying out the programmes in section 20. The Committee recommended that the Secretary-General should increase his efforts to provide adequate means for the timely implementation of the relevant mandates and recalled the importance of effective co-ordination. The Committee also recommended that, in future programme budgets, more information should be provided on the programmes and management of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control. The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 20 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 21. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

218. At its 34th meeting, on 30 May, the Committee considered section 21 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Conclusions and recommendations

219. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 21 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 22. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator

220. At its 26th and 27th meetings, on 24 May, the Committee considered section 22 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Conclusions and recommendations

221. The Committee emphasized the importance that it attached to the activities of UNDRO and requested the Secretary-General to give their implementation the necessary priority.

222. The Committee requested that the Secretary-General avoid any negative programmatic impact as a result of post reduction in implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213.

223. The Committee noted recent decisions of the General Assembly confirming that the mandate, identity and location of UNDRO would be maintained, and recommended that, in future, efforts should be made to avoid any imbalance between mandated activities and the availability of resources for their implementation.

224. The Committee stressed the need to ensure that any redeployment of resources to administration and management would not be to the detriment of substantive activities.

225. Taking into account the above, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 22 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 23. Human rights

226. At its 32nd and 33rd meetings, on 27 May, the Committee considered section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

227. Some delegations voiced approval of the 1 per cent rate of real growth in section 23, but expressed disappointment that, in terms of the overall budget, the resources allocated to this section only amounted to 0.9 per cent. Some delegations expressed the need for the same importance and adequate resources to be given to other budget sections. Some delegations expressed satisfaction with the redeployment of posts from Executive direction and management to Human rights activities, since that strengthened the programme of activities. Some delegations, however, expressed concern at the arrangements for senior-level management of the Centre for Human Rights and at the absence of posts at the senior level.

228. The designation of programme element 1.1 (Implementing regular supervisory procedures) as high priority met with approval, but several delegations were concerned that programme element 4.1 (Standard setting) had been accorded low priority. Some delegations believed that activities concerned with the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories and the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination deserved close attention and support. Others proposed that the Secretary-General should allocate adequate resources and highest priority to the activities of the Special Committee. Some delegations stressed that care should be taken to avoid duplication between the Centre for Human Rights and the Department of Public Information in the area of information activities. Some delegations considered the use of special rapporteurs and special representatives to be entirely appropriate. Several other delegations noted that adequate attention should be given to the sound financial basis of the international instruments in the human rights area.

Reservations

229. One delegation expressed its reservations on the following activities:

(a) The Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories;

(b) The Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

230. Another delegation expressed its strong objection to the involvement of the United Nations human rights bodies in matters of exclusive competence of Member States. In that context, it opposed the use of the special rapporteurs or special representatives as being an interference in the internal affairs of Member States.

Conclusions and recommendations

231. The Committee recommended that the Secretary-General should ensure the balanced implementation of international instruments in the field of human rights.

232. The Committee took note with appreciation of the redeployment of resources from Executive direction and management to programme activities.

233. The Committee recommended that the Secretary-General should strengthen co-ordination between the Department of Public Information and the Centre for Human Rights in the area of information activities.

234. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 24. Regular programme of technical co-operation

235. At its 37th meeting, on 31 May, the Committee considered section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Conclusions and recommendations

236. Taking account the views expressed by delegations in the Committee, the Committee recommended that further efforts should be made to diversify the recruitment of consultants, with increased use of local expertise.

237. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 25. International Court of Justice

238. At its 24th meeting, on 23 May, the Committee considered section 25 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

239. Several delegations raised questions about the caseload of the Court, and so additional information was provided in that respect. One delegation raised a question regarding secretarial support requirements for the Registry. It was suggested that those issues might more appropriately be considered by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

Conclusions and recommendations

240. The Committee took note of the programme narrative of section 25 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and recommended its approval by the General Assembly.

Section 26. Legal activities

241. At its 24th meeting, on 23 May, the Committee considered section 26 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

242. Some delegations raised questions on the requirements of the Office of Legal Affairs in terms of travel of representatives, rental, maintenance and acquisition of equipment and communications. In respect of travel of representatives, one delegation requested information on the pattern of sessions of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal.

243. Several delegations raised questions about subprogramme 3 (Training and assistance in the field of international trade law) of programme 5 (Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade), and questioned the rationale for extrabudgetary funding in respect of the activities of that subprogramme.

244. One delegation expressed concern that the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, in particular those prescribed in regulation 4.6 (b) on the designation of priorities, were not applied in this section.

Conclusions and recommendations

245. The Committee recommended that in future proposed programme budgets, the priority designation of programme elements under section 26 be made with greater care and discernment.

246. The Committee noted that, although the modernization of the Office of Legal Affairs was an appropriate endeavour, efforts should be made to curtail expenses for equipment, travel and maintenance and acquisition of equipment.

247. The Committee recommended that the Office of Legal Affairs should spare no effort in ensuring that the backlog in the United Nations Treaty Series was eliminated by the end of 1991 to the maximum extent possible.

248. The Committee noted that the question of mixed sources of financing (regular budgetary and extrabudgetary) was a question that the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was keeping under review. In that regard, the Committee noted the importance of that issue and its implications for programmes, and stressed that the source of financing selected should contribute to enhancing implementation of programmes as mandated by Member States.

249. The Committee noted the implications of General Assembly resolution 41/213 in respect of section 26 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of that section.

Section 27. Public information

250. At its 42nd and 43rd meetings, on 2 June, the Committee considered section 27 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Discussion

251. While a number of delegations expressed satisfaction with the format of the section, they regretted its late submission. Another delegation noted that the allocation of extrabudgetary resources to the various programmes and programme elements could not be easily inferred from the document. Some delegations indicated that the treatment of the programme narratives under section 27 was lengthy in comparison with other sections and lacked clarity, and felt that the presentation of the section should be more transparent.

252. One delegation noted that the post reductions approved by the General Assembly for section 27 were substantial, and another delegation inquired about the measures taken for staff whose posts had been abolished.

253. Several questions were raised with regard to the specific content of the programme elements cited. A number of delegations made reference to programme element 1.5 (Self-determination) and questioned the omission of any reference to decolonization. The Secretariat indicated that this omission would be rectified in a general corrigendum to be issued at a later stage. Several delegations also felt that some of the outputs cited under programme element 1.7 (Development) did not address the issues of priority concern in the field of economic development, as required by the mandates in the medium-term plan, such as the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade, debt and development, issues relating to resource flows and transfers of technology etc. Various delegations also questioned the relation between specific outputs under a number of programmes and the pertinent legislative mandates. Several delegations inquired about the future arrangements for the production and distribution of the newsletter Africa Recovery in the context of the overall activities to be undertaken for the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development.

254. A number of delegations requested that a detailed organizational chart of the Department of Public Information in its new structure be submitted to the Committee or to the Fifth Committee at a later stage. One delegation requested confirmation that all the posts released as a result of the abolition of the Bureau of Programme Operations and the Division for Committee Liaison and Administrative Services had been transferred to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General. The question was raised with regard to the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the restructuring of the Department and its impact on programme delivery.

255. Another delegation also requested confirmation that staff whose posts had been eliminated would be speedily redeployed in the Department or in another part of the Secretariat.

256. Some delegations stressed the importance of radio programmes in Portuguese and requested confirmation that such programmes would not be affected by the post reduction exercise. Similar concerns were expressed in respect of radio programmes to be produced in Dutch-Papiamento and French-Creole.

257. One delegation noted that within the Department, the departmental administration showed a rate of real growth in excess of 15 per cent and requested a clarification in that respect. Some delegations expressed concern that the resources provided for the United Nations information centres showed a negative real growth.

258. A number of delegations expressed continued concern at the possible impact of the post reduction on the equitable geographical distribution within the Department. Attention was drawn in particular to the inadequate representation of African countries, especially at higher levels.

259. Several delegations requested that, in the absence of any designation of priorities at the programme element level, such information should be provided to the Fifth Committee for its consideration of this Section. One delegation suggested that programme element 1.4 (The struggle against apartheid, the question of Namibia, and Palestine) should receive the highest priority. Another delegation indicated that programme element 2.2 (Radio news programmes and magazines) should be of highest priority.

Conclusions and recommendations

260. The Committee took note of the efforts of the Secretariat to improve the format of section 27.

261. The Committee noted that, nevertheless, efforts must be continued to achieve a presentation of programmes based on objectives rather than on administrative units so as to avoid a certain redundancy in the description of those programmes and also to speed up the submission of section 27 to the Committee.

262. The Committee stressed that, during this phase of reform, efforts were still required to ensure a rapid implementation of the programmes that had been formulated and, in that respect, also stressed that greater emphasis should be placed on programmes based on important mandates dealt with by the Department where some shortfalls and omissions currently remain, including peace and security, self-determination and decolonization, development, including debt and other aspects, Namibia, apartheid, Palestine, and human rights, as adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 43/219.

263. With regard to the restructuring of the Department, the Committee noted the new structure proposed and invited the Secretary-General to provide further details in his submission. In this regard the Committee noted the assurances of the Secretariat that the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the restructuring of the Department and its impact on programme delivery of that Department was under preparation and that it would be submitted to the General Assembly, together with the relevant comments of the Secretary-General.

264. The Committee recalled the need to ensure linguistic diversity in the radio programmes of the Department, with special emphasis on Portuguese. Some assurances previously given by the Secretariat in respect of radio programmes in Portuguese, Dutch-Papiamento and French-Creole were confirmed to the Committee.

265. The Committee noted the redeployments of resources in section 27 and underlined the fact that such redeployments must be effected with care in order to avoid a negative impact on the implementation of programmes.

266. With regard to geographical distribution, the Committee stressed that efforts must be actively pursued in order to put into practice assurances that had already been given, particularly with respect to high-level posts.

267. The Committee recommended a strengthening of the activities carried out by the United Nations information centres in the context of the continued implementation of recommendation 37 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts. 2/ To that end, the Committee stressed the need to ensure that resource redeployments contributed to the efficiency of those information centres by ensuring that sufficient resources were available.

268. On the question of priorities, the Committee noted that there had been no designation of priority in this section and recommended that efforts be made to remedy the situation.

269. The Committee took note of the programme narrative of section 27 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and recommended its approval by the General Assembly on the understanding that the Secretary-General is invited to submit to the Assembly, at its forty-fourth session, proposals on the necessary adjustments and amendments to the programme narrative of some programmes under section 27 in the form of a conference room paper or as an addendum, with special emphasis on the questions of economic development and priorities, taking into account the mandates in the medium-term plan and the recommendations of the Committee at its twenty-ninth session. In that regard, the Committee noted the assurances given by the representative of the Secretary-General.

B. All aspects of priority-setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget

270. At its 44th meeting, on 2 June, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on all aspects of priority-setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget (A/44/272).

Conclusions and recommendations

271. The Committee expressed its satisfaction with the report of the Secretary-General and considered it very useful.

272. The Committee noted that the report highlighted the difficulties encountered in the setting of priorities and observed that it was a good basis for further consideration.

273. At the same time, the Committee was of the view that the problem of priority-setting had many parameters, and that the report had shed insufficient light on those problems.

274. In that context, the Committee considered that the report represented a first step in the direction of re-examining priority-setting in its broader contexts, taking into account the need for in-depth analysis of such related issues as mandates and sources of funding.

275. The Committee noted that it did not have sufficient time fully to consider this very complex issue, and decided to transmit the report, together with its views thereon, to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session for further consideration.

C. Statements of programme budget implications

276. At its 15th, 17th and 18th meetings, on 15, 17 and 18 May 1989, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on statements of programme budget implications (A/44/234).

Conclusions and recommendations

277. The Committee noted that the report dealt with complex and technical issues in a useful and timely manner, particularly with respect to the new budget process.

278. The Committee also noted that improvements in the statements of programme budget implications, notably in their programmatic content, would contribute to the effective implementation of the medium-term plan and the programme budget and would facilitate the revisions to the plan. In turn, the provision of informative statements would be facilitated by improvements in the programmatic content of both the medium-term plan and the programme budget.

279. The Committee reiterated the important role of statements of programme budget implications in informing intergovernmental bodies of the programmatic and financial implications of their proposals and in assisting those bodies in considering alternative solutions for the implementation of the proposed activities. In that connection, the Committee recognized the need for greater co-operation among the Secretariat units involved in the preparation of such statements, particularly in providing information on the relationship between ongoing and proposed activities and on the current situation with regard to the use of resources.

280. The Committee recommended that the time available for the Secretariat for the preparation of statements of programme budget implications should remain within a minimum 48-hour period, as provided in General Assembly decision 34/401 on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the Assembly. The Committee, however, indicated that this time rule should be applied in a flexible and pragmatic manner.

281. The Committee also recommended that, other than in exceptional cases, written statements of programme budget implications should be provided for all proposals entailing programmatic changes and requests for additional resources.

282. The Committee reaffirmed the validity of paragraph 7 of section II of General Assembly resolution 38/227 A of 20 December 1983 as the framework for the provision of statements of programme budget implications. The Committee noted that the legislative directives for the contingency fund, as contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 42/211, further defined the role of statements of programme budget implications in providing better analysis to intergovernmental bodies, particularly with respect to the provision of alternative solutions to funding proposed activities.

283. The Committee recommended that, in line with regulation 4.9 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, statements should provide information to intergovernmental bodies on the programme budget implications of their proposals before they adopted such proposals and that, if

required, rules of procedure should be revised, it being understood that final decisions relating to the medium-term plan and to the programme budget of the Organization rest with the General Assembly.

284. The Committee recommended that the procedure for the provision of statements of programme budget implications should be reviewed during the implementation of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. The Committee recalled that the procedures for the use and operation of the contingency fund would also be subject to a review and recommended that the Secretary-General should submit a single report on the two reviews to the General Assembly through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and CPC at its thirty-first session.

D. Evaluation

1. Implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its twenty-sixth session on the evaluation of the population programme

285. At its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 8 May, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its twenty-sixth session 10/ on the in-depth evaluation of the population programme (E/AC.51/1989/3).

Conclusions and recommendations

286. The Committee noted with appreciation that action had been taken to implement its recommendations. The Committee endorsed the recommendations contained in paragraph 101 of the report of the Secretary-General, with the following modifications:

(a) With reference to paragraph 101 (a), the Committee agreed that it should read as follows:

"Continue to ensure the integration of socio-economic and cultural factors in demographic research and population policy analysis on the basis of reliable and comparable data";

(b) With reference to paragraph 101 (d), the Committee agreed that the following should be added at the end of the paragraph:

"and take steps to ensure stable financing of POPIN's activities".

2. In-depth evaluation of the programme on development issues and policies

287. At its 5th to 7th meetings, on 9 and 10 May, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on development issues and policies (E/AC.51/1989/4 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.2 and Add.2/Corr.1).

(a) Programme of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

Conclusions and recommendations

288. The Committee welcomed the report (E/AC.51/1989/4) but expressed regret that it was issued so late. The Committee considered, however, that the report should have focused more on the important role of the Department and on its programme outputs in facilitating dialogue and negotiations among Member States on the world economic and social situation and problems. The Committee felt that the views of Governments should be given the required emphasis in relation to other views, since Governments were the primary end-users. The Committee stressed the need for improving the format and content of questionnaires with a view to getting a better response.

289. The Committee agreed with the general thrust of recommendation 1 and recommended that the Economic and Social Council should discuss the matter in the context of the revitalization of the Council.

290. The Committee took note of recommendations 2 to 6.

(b) Programme of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

Discussion

291. The Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of programme 2 on technical co-operation in development issues and policies being carried out by the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (E/AC.51/1989/4/Add.1 and Corr.1). Several delegations expressed concern about the statement in paragraph 46 of the report in regard to the manner in which adjustment programmes had been helpful for economic recovery in certain countries. Those delegations underlined the negative social costs that those programmes had created. Some delegations also expressed reservations about the recommendation contained in paragraph 73 (b) in regard to paragraph 46, and they considered that the recommendation should have focused on means of counteracting the negative aspects of adjustment programmes, rather than on enhancing preparedness for assistance concerning the social dimensions of such programmes.

Conclusions and recommendations

292. The Committee took the following decisions on the recommendations contained in paragraph 73 of the report:

(a) The Committee took note of the recommendations contained in subparagraphs (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j) and (l); 11/

(b) The Committee approved the recommendations contained in subparagraph (a), on the understanding that their implementation would enhance co-ordination among organizations of the United Nations system and would lead to better fulfilment of the existing mandate of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development in the field of development issues and policies;

(c) In regard to the recommendations contained in subparagraph (b), the Committee approved that part of the recommendations which stated that the Department should augment its efforts in support of technical co-operation among developing countries and to assist Governments in strengthening their capacity for project execution, in the framework of the approved programme budget. Reservations were expressed on the recommendation relating to structural adjustments;

(d) The Committee was of the view that the recommendations contained in subparagraph (k) were of a managerial nature and that they should be implemented within the competence of the Secretary-General. With regard to the ceiling for local purchase of equipment, the Committee noted that the Controller was already reviewing the matter;

(e) With respect to subparagraph (m), the Committee was of the view that the Economic and Social Council could undertake substantive reviews of the work of the Department in the field of development issues and policies, but was opposed to the establishment of a new functional body.

(c) Programme of the Economic Commission for Africa

Conclusions and recommendations

293. The Committee noted that the report (E/AC.51/1989/4/Add.2 and Corr.1) was not an evaluation, but rather a review of the setting of priorities, and suggested that the methodology used in the report be generalized in assessing priorities and utilized as an additional element in future programme evaluations.

294. The Committee requested that an in-depth evaluation of the programme on development issues and policies of ECA be carried out and submitted to it at its thirty-first session. The Committee also requested the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the subject to it at its thirtieth session.

295. The Committee also noted that the review of the programme priorities was conducted at a time of financial crisis that affected the implementation of programmed activities in some priority areas, and it therefore stressed the need for caution in drawing conclusions on the basis of the observed implementation rates.

296. The Committee noted the role of MULPOCs in providing technical support, including the preparation of studies at the request of African regional economic groupings so as to facilitate their eventual integration into an African economic community in accordance with the Lagos Plan of Action. The Committee recommended that, in light of the ongoing review of the programming and operational activities of the MULPOCs, a decision on their functioning should be deferred pending the outcome of that review.

297. The Committee recommended that any modification to the programme structure proposed in paragraphs 22 to 25 of the report, as well as the priorities identified therein, should be viewed within the general and specific priorities of the Lagos Plan of Action, as well as the report of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa, and further elaborated in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, within the framework of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990.

3. In-depth evaluation of the disarmament programme

298. At its 6th to 9th meetings, on 10 and 11 May, the Committee considered the progress report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the disarmament programme (E/AC.51/1989/5).

Conclusions

299. The Committee welcomed the report and the efforts of the Secretary-General to evaluate for the first time a political programme.

300. The Committee expressed concern with the resources needed to undertake the evaluation proposed in the progress report.

301. The Committee considered that, for political programmes, a methodology different from that used for other types of programmes would be required, with an emphasis on a qualitative approach and without undue attention to quantitative considerations.

302. The Committee was of the view that the evaluation should focus on programmatic activities rather than substantive issues and should be transmitted to the General Assembly and to the Conference on Disarmament.

303. Views should be sought from Governments on all subprogrammes and given clear prominence in relation to other views. With regard to relevant programme elements, the views of non-governmental organizations and academics and those expressed in the professional literature and other appropriate media should be given due consideration.

304. While unable to endorse the methodology and content of the questionnaire annexed to the report, the Committee did not object in principle to the use of questionnaires as an element of this evaluation. It believed that any questionnaire should cover all relevant programme areas and should also address the effectiveness of Secretariat activities.

Recommendations

305. Taking into account the importance of evaluating political programmes, the Committee recommended that a final decision on the evaluation report on the disarmament programme should be postponed, and it decided to revert to this issue at its thirtieth session, in the light of its discussion on methodology referred to in paragraph 306 below.

306. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to present to it at its thirtieth session a revised proposal on the methodology and scheduling of the evaluation of the disarmament programme, including methodological considerations that could be applied in the evaluation of other political programmes, taking into account the views expressed by the Committee at its twenty-ninth session.

307. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session should take note of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the

evaluation of the disarmament programme and should endorse the conclusions and recommendations of CPC thereon.

4. In-depth evaluation of the human rights programme

308. At its 2nd, 4th, 9th, 10th and 11th meetings, on 8, 9, 11 and 12 May, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the human rights programme (E/AC.51/1989/2).

Discussion

309. Some delegations found the evaluation report to be a substantial analysis and expressed their appreciation for the work done. Those delegations considered that the methodology was innovative in supplementing traditional methods of evaluation by, for example, obtaining contributions from non-governmental end-users, as the Committee had requested.

310. Some delegations felt that the evaluation over-emphasized the views of non-governmental organizations. They considered that the views of Governments, as set out in evaluations, should have clear prominence in relation to other views, such as those of non-governmental organizations and those contained in the professional literature.

311. Some delegations felt that additional emphasis should be given to other subjects, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, apartheid, and the situation in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel, and the situation of migrant workers, as well as other forms of racial discrimination. Some delegations considered that the evaluation represented a fair assessment of the mandated programme activities in human rights and took note of the references to other related programmes listed in paragraph 111 of the report.

312. Several delegations considered that the report failed to achieve the expected results by being unbalanced and incomplete in its evaluation of the broad range of human rights activities and could not, therefore, constitute a fair evaluation of those important and valuable activities.

313. Some other delegations agreed with the summary of findings of the evaluation that Member States have used the United Nations human rights programme as their main forum for the negotiation of agreements and declarations on the international aspects of human rights, and are continuing to do so, that their negotiations have succeeded in establishing many instruments and procedures, that external professional peer groups, including non-governmental organizations, make extensive use of the work of the programme and actively participate in it, and that the press and the general public exhibit a relatively high level of interest in the programme. They further considered that the recommendations in the report were formulated in accordance with Rule 106.4(d) of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, and that the Committee should address itself to the many recommendations that fell within its competence. They noted that the recommendations concerning human rights advisory services represented no real change from current practice, in which many countries had requested such services.

Conclusions and recommendations

314. The Committee took note of the report of the Secretary-General.

5. General conclusions and recommendations

315. At its 9th meeting, on 11 May, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General on the timetable for in-depth evaluations (E/AC.51/1989/6).

316. The Committee welcomed the efforts made by the Secretariat to refine the methodology for evaluation and stressed the need for further improvements. It urged the Secretariat to adopt a more qualitative approach in its evaluation analyses wherever justified by programmatic considerations.

317. The Committee also agreed that the Secretariat should use, on an experimental basis, the membership of the Committee as a geographically diverse sample of Member States for future questionnaires. That sample would be utilized in the in-depth evaluation of the human settlements programme, the report on which would be submitted to the Committee at its thirtieth session, in 1990.

318. The Committee recommended that the in-depth evaluation to be scheduled for its consideration in 1993 would be for the programme on international protection of and assistance to refugees.

319. The Committee recommended that the review of the programme on development issues and policies, which would examine the extent to which the recommendations of the Committee made at its present session had been implemented, should be undertaken for consideration at its thirty-first session, to be held in 1991, rather than at its thirty-second session in 1992, as scheduled. The Committee decided that, at its thirty-first session in 1991, it would further consider whether future triennial reviews should be replaced by reports to be prepared two - instead of three - years after each in-depth evaluation.

320. In view of the nature of the in-depth evaluation of the electronic data processing and information systems programme and owing to the exigencies of the Committee's work-load at its thirtieth session, to be held in 1990, the Committee decided that it would not consider the triennial review of that programme scheduled for 1990.

E. Mailing lists and registers maintained by the United Nations

321. At its 45th meeting, on 2 June, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General on mailing lists and registers maintained by the United Nations (E/AC.51/1987/8).

Conclusions and recommendations

322. The Committee took note of the note by the Secretary-General on mailing lists and registers maintained by the United Nations and recommended that the Secretary-General should keep the issue under review, bearing in mind the objectives sought by Member States.

IV. CO-ORDINATION QUESTIONS

A. Rationalization of co-ordination instruments

323. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1988/77 of 29 July 1988 on the revitalization of the Council, had requested the Committee's views on the rationalization of co-ordination instruments. The Committee agreed at its organizational session of 1989 that the Secretariat should prepare a background note to guide the discussions of the Committee.

324. At its 9th, 10th and 11th meetings, on 11 and 12 May, the Committee considered the background note by the Secretariat on the rationalization of co-ordination instruments (E/AC.51/1989/CRP.1).

Conclusions and recommendations

325. The Committee observed that the background note of co-ordination instruments provided a useful overview of existing co-ordination instruments and machinery. In light of the fact that the document was prepared solely for discussion and reflection, the Committee agreed that it did provide succinct information on the issue.

326. The Committee recognized that co-ordination should be aimed at greater compatibility and mutual complementarity of the activities and programmes of the organs, organizations and agencies of the United Nations system. In that regard co-ordination should concentrate on those issues and problems that require the attention of the international community and effective joint action on the part of the system.

327. The Committee agreed that co-ordination as a policy instrument to improve the performance and enhance the quality of output of the organizations of the United Nations system should also aim at avoiding unnecessary duplication, eliminating overlap and improving cost-effectiveness.

328. The Committee noted in that regard that there currently exist, inter alia, the following important instruments of co-ordination within the United Nations system: the medium-term plans of the United Nations and other bodies, cross-organizational reports, system-wide medium-term plans, the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, and the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.

329. The Committee stressed the need to strengthen co-ordination in general through the improvement of co-ordination instruments and machinery within the United Nations system and in the United Nations itself. There was a need for greater co-ordination both in the policy-making process and in programmatic activities. With respect to the policy-making process, there was a need to enhance the common response of the organizations of the United Nations system to emerging issues of importance to the international community. The Committee reiterated that co-ordination depended on the willingness of both the Secretariat and Member States to make effective use of co-ordination instruments and that its aims were to increase the compatibility and mutual complementarity of activities of the system, to avoid unnecessary duplication of efforts and resource allocations, and to

enhance decision-making by intergovernmental bodies and the United Nations system. The Committee stressed that there was a need to take into account the ongoing process of revitalization of the Economic and Social Council and, bearing in mind the need to enhance the role of the Council in co-ordination, to define better the Committee's role in relation to the Council and other bodies in the system.

330. The Committee noted that the Council, in its resolution 1988/77, had put an end to cross-organizational programme analyses in their present form, but the Committee considered that the mandated 1990 analysis on industrial development should be undertaken. Regarding the new form that system-wide analyses might take, the Committee suggested that the forthcoming discussions in the Council would define the scope and character of the thematic analyses called for by the Council in resolution 1988/77. In that regard, the Committee recommended that, in their new form, system-wide analyses should provide a more qualitative assessment of the current status of co-ordination in particular sectors of United Nations activities and suggest action-oriented forward-looking recommendations on ways and means to improve it.

331. The Committee recommended that future analyses, referred to in paragraph 2 (e) (iii) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/77, as well as other voluminous United Nations documents, should be preceded by an executive summary to provide an overview of the main issues, findings and conclusions contained therein.

B. Cross-organizational programme analyses

1. Future cross-organizational programme analyses

332. At its 12th and 13th meetings, on 15 May, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on future cross-organizational programme analyses (E/AC.51/1989/10).

Conclusions and recommendations

333. The Committee agreed that, given the implications of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/77, under which cross-organizational programme analyses are to be discontinued in their present form, there was still a need for programme analyses across the system. While it may not be feasible to select a topic for a cross-organizational programme analysis for 1991, the Committee recalled the interest expressed at its twenty-eighth session 12/ on the topic of human resources development and suggested that the Council should bear that in mind when making its choice at an appropriate time in the future.

2. Scope and general approach of the cross-organizational programme analysis on the activities of the United Nations system related to industrial development

334. At its 13th meeting, on 15 May, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the scope and general approach of the cross-organizational programme analysis on the activities of the United Nations system related to industrial development (E/AC.51/1989/9).

Conclusions and recommendations

335. The Committee stressed the importance of carrying out a cross-organizational programme analysis on this topic. It reiterated that the analysis should reflect the central co-ordinating role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in this area and the need to take into account the relevant activities of the other organizations of the United Nations system in industrial development.

336. The Committee recommended that this programme analysis should serve a transitional function by providing an analytical review of the status of co-operation, as well as forward-looking practical recommendation to strengthen it. The Committee agreed to the methodology of the analysis defined in the report of the Secretary-General.

337. The Committee also recommended that the programme analysis should take into account the views of the Industrial Development Board. In that regard, the Committee agreed that the views of the Board could be transmitted directly to the Economic and Social Council.

338. The Committee noted that UNIDO was currently experiencing financial difficulties, and recommended that the financial questions should be taken into account in the proposed analysis.

339. The Committee recommended that the proposed programme analysis should also aim at examining in-depth what had been carried out within the system regarding industrialization in developing countries with particular attention to the needs of less developed countries. In that context, the Committee agreed that the analysis should also review progress on implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and also the role of women in industrialization.

340. The Committee suggested that the proposed cross-organizational programme analysis should not be limited to a time frame of only the past biennium, but should take into account important developments since 1980 by all organizations of the United Nations system with activities in industrial development.

3. Cross-organizational programme analysis on the activities of the United Nations system related to the advancement of women

341. At its 11th and 12th meetings, on 11 and 15 May, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the cross-organizational programme analysis of the activities of the United Nations system related to the advancement of women (E/1989/19) and on policy approaches of the Organization on women.

Discussion

342. Some delegations suggested that greater emphasis should be given to young women, elderly women, migrant women, women under apartheid and women in Namibia and Palestine, bearing in mind areas of special concern identified in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.

343. Several delegations considered that the analysis concerning the advancement of women was not detailed enough, particularly with regard to the situation of Palestinian women and women under the apartheid régime. Those delegations recommended that the Secretary-General should provide the resources necessary to take account of the special importance attached by the United Nations to the situation of women in Palestine and of women under the apartheid régime.

Conclusions and recommendations

344. The Committee agreed that the report was substantive and well-grounded in fact and analysis and reflected in general the request and methodology endorsed by the Committee at its twenty-eighth session 13/ and by the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-second session. 14/

345. It noted that the analysis of mandates, policies, programmes and activities provided a clear picture of trends and a comprehensive indication of mandates being undertaken by the organizations of the United Nations system related to the advancement of women. At the same time, it was stressed that the analysis of mandates and policies should, as a general rule, cover the extent to which they had facilitated or hindered co-ordination.

346. It considered that the report would serve as an indicator of the system-wide effort to implement the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and should be incorporated into the comprehensive reporting system of the Commission on the Status of Women for monitoring, review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and would serve as a benchmark against which progress and results of the system-wide medium-term plan for women could be measured.

347. The Committee agreed with the conclusions and recommendations of the report.

348. While accepting the validity of a mainstreaming approach to policy and programmes on the advancement of women, the Committee recommended that bodies of the United Nations system should continue to apply gender-specific and mainstreaming policy approaches in a mutually supportive and complementary manner in order to more effectively promote overall co-ordination and advancement of women.

349. Further, it stated that concrete measures should be undertaken to reinforce co-ordination within the system in order to ensure complementarity of efforts and to avoid possible duplication and overlap.

350. It recommended that further action be taken to ensure full implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies.

351. While accepting the current level of resources for programmes devoted to the advancement of women, the Committee observed that there was a differential between regular and extrabudgetary allocations and the main objectives of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies.

352. The Committee suggested that greater emphasis should be given to areas of special concern identified in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies.

4. Cross-organizational programme analysis of the activities of the United Nations system in the area of human settlements

Synoptic table on the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on the cross-organizational programme analysis of the activities of the United Nations system in the area of human settlements

353. At its 13th meeting, on 15 May, the Committee considered the note by the Secretariat entitled "Synoptic table on the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on the cross-organizational programme analysis of the activities of the United Nations system in the area of human settlements" (E/AC.51/1989/8).

354. In that regard, the Committee took note of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) on co-ordination and co-operation with agencies and organizations within the United Nations system (HS/C/12/11), prepared for the Commission on Human Settlements at its twelfth session (24 April-3 May 1989). The report contained a comprehensive synoptic table providing information on human settlements activities carried out by the organizations of the United Nations system.

355. The Committee was of the view that the document responded to its request for information on human settlements activities carried out by the organizations of the United Nations system.

C. Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and preparations for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

356. The Committee considered the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) for 1988 (E/1989/18) and a progress report of ACC on the Register of Development Activities of the United Nations System (E/1989/74). 15/

Conclusions and recommendations

1. Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

357. The Committee agreed that the annual report of ACC was useful. However more emphasis should be given to system-wide co-ordination in specific sectors of activity, identifying problems and suggesting remedial measures.

358. It was considered that the annual report of ACC, together with the relevant recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, should be given more attention and should be regarded in the same manner as the annual report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization. The Committee recommended an examination of the possibility of substantial modification of the report of ACC so that it would, taking due account of General Assembly resolutions, be more forward-looking and analytical and would provide intergovernmental bodies with alternative suggestions on policy measures for major programmes. The Committee also considered that, with regard to programmatic co-ordination, ACC should

continue its efforts to make its annual report more dynamic, to modify the content and format and to improve the quality of its analysis, which should be more critical in nature. It was considered that the substantive secretariats concerned should make greater contributions to the report. The Committee felt that the necessary secretarial support for the preparation of such ACC reports could be ensured by consolidating the present secretarial resources of ACC and its subsidiary machinery, including the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions.

359. The Committee recommended that ACC should take action to make its role more effective, to review its working methods and to make its work more visible and transparent. The Committee reaffirmed the role of the Secretary-General of the United Nations as Chairman of ACC in co-ordinating the activities of the specialized agencies of the United Nations system.

360. The Committee emphasized the importance of the review to be undertaken, through ACC, of the question of harmonization of planning and budgeting cycles in the United Nations system, in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 43/219.

361. The Committee recommended to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly that the report of ACC should be considered in greater detail.

2. Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

Discussion

362. Some delegations expressed doubts concerning the usefulness of the Joint Meetings, while others considered that there was a need to strengthen that mechanism and to improve its effectiveness.

363. It was considered that the duration of the Joint Meetings should be reviewed, so that more time would be available to enable participants to hold an in-depth exchange of views.

Conclusions and recommendations

364. The Committee reiterated the need for the Joint Meetings to result in action-oriented recommendations amenable to follow-up by the secretariats and governing bodies of the organizations of the system. It emphasized the need for advance preparation for the Joint Meetings and agreed that participation, particularly on the part of CPC, should be at an appropriate level.

Choice of topic for the Joint Meetings

365. The Committee recommended that the following topics should be considered in the Joint Meetings during the period from 1989 to 1991:

1989 - 1. Preparation of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade

2. Drug abuse control

1990 - 1. Natural disaster reduction

2. Improvement of co-ordination in the United Nations system

1991 - 1. Implementation of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade

2. One more topic yet to be decided

366. The Committee felt that "Environment" might be a good choice as a second subject for discussion in the Joint Meetings in 1991. However, it decided to give further consideration to this matter at its thirty-first session in light of developments in that field.

367. The Committee recommended that the Joint Meetings in 1990 should give detailed consideration to the discussion on the item entitled "Natural disaster reduction".

368. The Committee decided to review the duration of the Joint Meetings at its thirty-first session in light of the experience gained from such meetings in 1989 and 1990.

V. REPORTS OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

369. At its 39th and 45th meetings, on 1 and 2 June, the Committee considered the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit selected by the Committee at its organizational session (A/43/586, A/44/135, A/44/221, E/1987/7 and Add.1 and E/1989/41 and Add.1) and the report of the Secretary-General on monitoring, evaluation and management information (A/44/233).

Conclusions and recommendations

370. The Committee took note of the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit that it had before it for its consideration and the report of the Secretary-General on monitoring, evaluation and management information.

371. The Committee decided to transmit those reports to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, drawing its attention to the interest of the reports of the Unit for a certain number of organs and organizations of the United Nations system, such as the United Nations Development Programme.

372. The Committee also decided to consider, at its thirtieth session, the possibility of a better means of considering the reports of the Unit.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

373. In pursuance of paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 of 10 May 1979, and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50 of 23 November 1979, the Committee shall submit to the Council and to the Assembly, for their review, the provisional agenda for its thirtieth session, together with the required documentation. In accordance with paragraph 8 of the annex to Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976, the thirtieth session of the Committee shall be of six weeks' duration.

374. At its 45th meeting, on 2 June, the Committee considered the provisional agenda and the documentation for its thirtieth session on the basis of a note by the Secretariat (E/AC.51/1989/L.4), as orally amended during the discussion.

375. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to request the Secretary-General to submit to its thirtieth session an update of his report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213 (A/44/222 and Corr.1).

376. The Committee decided to submit to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, for their review, the following provisional agenda for its thirtieth session:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (General Assembly resolution 41/213).

   Documentation

   Analytical report of the Secretary-General on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (General Assembly resolutions 41/213 and 43/213)

   Update of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213 (A/44/222 and Corr.1)

4. Programme questions:

   (a) Proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997;

   Documentation

   Proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

   (b) Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989

(c) Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 (General Assembly resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, and regulation 3.2 of the rules and regulations governing programme planning)

(d) Evaluation.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the major programme on human settlements (A/39/38, para. 364; A/43/16, part one, paras. 89-90)

Report of the Secretary-General on the methodology and scheduling of the in-depth evaluation of the disarmament programme (E/AC.51/1989/L.3/Add.2, para. 9)

Progress report on the in-depth evaluation of the science and technology programme (A/39/38, para. 364)

Progress report on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on development issues and policies of the Economic Commission for Africa (A/44/16, para. 294)

Report on the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives (General Assembly resolutions 37/234, 38/227 A and B and 42/215)

5. Co-ordination questions:

(a) Cross-organizational programme analysis;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the cross-organizational programme analysis on the activities of the United Nations system related to industrial development (A/43/16, part one, para. 149)

(b) Strengthening of co-ordination in the United Nations system;

(c) Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and preparations for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.

Documentation

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1989

6. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit.

7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Committee.

8. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirtieth session.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/39/38), para. 388.

2/ Ibid., Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49).

3/ Ibid., Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/43/6).

4/ See ibid., Supplement No. 16 (A/43/16), part one.

5/ Ibid., para. 37.

6/ Ibid., Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/40/38 and Corr.1), para. 616.

7/ Ibid., Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/42/16), part one, para. 77.

8/ Report of the United Nations World Population Conference, Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XIII.3), chap. I.

9/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/43/16), part one, para. 136.

10/ Ibid., Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/41/38 and Corr.2), paras. 72-78.

11/ Subparagraph 73 (g) of the report of the Secretary-General (E/AC.51/1989/4/Add.1 and Corr.1) refers to the in-depth project evaluations of UNDP-financed projects, the expenditure for which is included in the project budget.

12/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/43/16), part one, para. 151.

13/ Ibid., paras. 153-155.

14/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 2 (E/1987/15), chap. I, sect. A, para. 1, draft resolution I.

15/ United Nations publication, Sales No. GV.E.88.0.4.

ANNEX I

Agenda for the twenty-ninth session of the Committee

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

4. Programme questions:

   (a) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991;

   (b) Statements of programme budget implications;

   (c) Evaluation;

   (d) Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations information activities in the area of disarmament;

   (e) Report of the Secretary-General on mailing lists and registers maintained by the United Nations.

5. Co-ordination questions:

   (a) Rationalization of co-ordination instruments;

   (b) Cross-organizational programme analyses;

   (c) Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and preparations for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.

6. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit.

7. Provisional agenda for the thirtieth session of the Committee.

8. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its twenty-ninth session.

ANNEX II

List of documents before the Committee at its twenty-ninth session

A/44/6 a/	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991
Foreword Introduction	
Section 1, Parts I-III.	Overall policy-making, direction and co-ordination
Section 2A, Parts I and IV.	Political and Security Council affairs; peace-keeping activities (Policy-making organs; Department of Political and Security Council Affairs; overall tables)
Section 2A, Part II.	Special missions
Section 2A, Part III.	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
Section 2B and Corr.1.	Disarmament affairs activities
Section 2C.	Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea
Section 3A.	Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization (Policy-making organs)
Section 3B.	Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization (Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship)
Section 3C.	Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization (Namibia)
Section 3D.	Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization (Centre against Apartheid)
Section 3E.	Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization (South-East Asia: Political and humanitarian affairs)
Section 4.	Policy-making organs (Economic and social activities)
Section 5A.	Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation

a/ Issued subsequently in printed form under the symbol A/44/6, vols. I and II.

Section 5B.	Regional Commissions New York Office
Section 6.	Department of International Economic and Social Affairs
Section 7.	Department of Technical Co-operation for Development
Section 8.	Activities on global social development issues
Section 9.	Transnational corporations
Section 10.	Economic Commission for Europe
Section 11.	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Section 12.	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Section 13.	Economic Commission for Africa
Section 14.	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
Section 15.	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
Section 16.	International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/GATT)
Section 17.	Centre for Science and Technology for Development
Section 18.	United Nations Environment Programme
Section 19.	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
Section 20.	International drug control
Section 21.	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Section 22.	Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator
Section 23.	Human rights
Section 24.	Regular programme of technical co-operation
Section 25.	International Court of Justice
Section 26.	Legal activities
Section 27.	Public information

Section 28.	Administration and management: overview
Section 28A.	Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management
Section 28B.	Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Finance
Section 28C.	Office of Human Resources Management
Section 28D.	Office of General Services, Headquarters
Section 28E.	Internal audit services
Section 28F.	Administration and common services, Geneva
Section 28G.	Miscellaneous expenses
Section 28H.	Jointly financed administrative activities
Section 28I.	Division of Administrative and Common Services, Vienna
Section 28J.	Common Services, Nairobi
A/43/586	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the representation of organizations of the United Nations system at conferences and meetings - Part A. The United Nations
A/44/135	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the representation of organizations of the United Nations system at conferences and meetings - Part B. The specialized agencies
A/44/221	Note by the Secretary-General containing his comments on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the representation of organizations of the United Nations system at conferences and meetings - Part A. The United Nations
A/44/222 and Corr.1	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213
A/44/233	Report of the Secretary-General on monitoring, evaluation and management information (pursuant to section III of General Assembly resolution 43/219)
A/44/234	Report of the Secretary-General on statements of programme budget implications

A/44/272	Report of the Secretary-General on all aspects of priority-setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget
E/1989/7 and Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on a review of the use of equipment provided to technical co-operation projects in developing countries, and comments of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination thereon
E/1989/18	Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1988
E/1989/19	Report of the Secretary-General on the cross-organizational programme analyses on activities of the United Nations system related to the advancement of women
E/1989/41 and Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the evaluation of United Nations technical co-operation project evaluation systems
E/1989/74	Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the register of development activities of the United Nations system
E/AC.51/1987/8	Report of the Secretary-General on mailing lists and registers maintained by the United Nations
E/AC.51/1989/1	Provisional agenda for the twenty-ninth session
E/AC.51/1989/2	Report of the Secretary-General on in-depth evaluation of the human rights programme
E/AC.51/1989/3	Report of the Secretary-General on the triennial review of the Committee's recommendations on evaluation of the population programme
E/AC.51/1989/4	Report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on development issues and policies
E/AC.51/1989/4 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1	Report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on development issues and policies: technical co-operation in development issues and policies
E/AC.51/1989/4 and Add.2 and Add.2/Corr.1	Report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on development issues and policies: Economic Commission for Africa

E/AC.51/1989/5	Progress report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the disarmament programme
E/AC.51/1989/6	Note by the Secretary-General on a timetable for in-depth evaluations
E/AC.51/1989/7	Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations information activities in the area of disarmament
E/AC.51/1989/8	Synoptic table on the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on the cross-organizational programme analysis of the activities of the United Nations system in the area of human settlements
E/AC.51/1989/9	Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed scope and general approach of the cross-organizational programme analysis of the United Nations system related to industrial development
E/AC.51/1989/10	Report of the Secretary-General on future cross-organizational programme analyses, 1991
E/AC.51/1989/CRP.1	Co-ordination questions: rationalization of co-ordination instruments
E/AC.51/1989/CRP.2	Note by the Secretariat on the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
E/AC.51/1989/CRP.3	Programme questions: Maintenance and replacement of office automation equipment at Headquarters
E/AC.51/1989/CRP.4	Programme questions: Presentation of estimated extrabudgetary resources in the proposed programme budget
E/AC.51/1989/CRP.5	Programme questions: Note by the Secretariat on the Economic Commission for Africa
E/AC.51/1989/INF.1	List of delegations
E/AC.51/1989/L.1	Draft programme of work: note by the Secretariat
E/AC.51/1989/L.2 and Rev.1	Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the session
E/AC.51/1989/L.3 and Add.1-32	Draft report of the Committee
E/AC.51/1989/L.4	Draft provisional agenda for the thirtieth session of the Committee

E/AC.51/1989/L.5	Provisional conclusions and recommendations on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 proposed by the Chairman: Introduction and overview
HS/C/12/11	Report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) on co-ordination and co-operation with agencies and organizations within the United Nations system

كيفية الحصول على منشورات الأمم المتحدة

يمكن الحصول على منشورات الأمم المتحدة من المكتبات ودور التوزيع في جميع أنحاء العالم . استعلم عنها من المكتبة التي تتعامل معها أو اكتب إلى : الأمم المتحدة ، قسم البيع في نيويورك أو في جنيف .

如何购取联合国出版物

联合国出版物在全世界各地的书店和经售处均有发售。请向书店询问或写信到纽约或日内瓦的联合国销售组。

HOW TO OBTAIN UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATIONS

United Nations publications may be obtained from bookstores and distributors throughout the world. Consult your bookstore or write to: United Nations, Sales Section, New York or Geneva.

COMMENT SE PROCURER LES PUBLICATIONS DES NATIONS UNIES

Les publications des Nations Unies sont en vente dans les librairies et les agences dépositaires du monde entier. Informez-vous auprès de votre libraire ou adressez-vous à : Nations Unies, Section des ventes, New York ou Genève.

КАК ПОЛУЧИТЬ ИЗДАНИЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ

Издания Организации Объединенных Наций можно купить в книжных магазинах и агентствах во всех районах мира. Наводите справки об изданиях в вашем книжном магазине или пишите по адресу: Организация Объединенных Наций, Секция по продаже изданий, Нью-Йорк или Женева.

COMO CONSEGUIR PUBLICACIONES DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS

Las publicaciones de las Naciones Unidas están en venta en librerías y casas distribuidoras en todas partes del mundo. Consulte a su librero o diríjase a: Naciones Unidas, Sección de Ventas, Nueva York o Ginebra.

Litho in United Nations, New York

00800

ISSN 0255-2213

03098—February 1980—3,800

75